

Pacific Northwest Region Malheur National Forest 541-575-3000

News Release

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Spring Prescribed and Pile Burning Projects

JOHN DAY, OR – Due to the unusually mild winter across the forest, fire managers are evaluating conditions for conducting prescribed burns earlier than in previous years.

As part of the Malheur National Forest's hazardous fuels reduction program, the Blue Mountain Ranger District is continuing their pile burning projects, and each of the three districts will be conducting spring landscape prescribed burning in various areas on the forest.

Burns will take place over the next several months; exact days will vary depending on weather.

Pile/Swamper Burning on Blue Mountain Ranger District will take place in the following units:

- County Road 18
- Canyon Creek
- Damon
- Crawford

Landscape burning is planned for this spring may include the following units:

- Dairy, Emigrant Creek Ranger District
- Knox, Prairie City Ranger District
- Pine Creek, Prairie City Ranger District
- Crawford Creek, Blue Mountain Ranger District
- Balance, Blue Mountain Ranger District
- Damon, Blue Mountain Ranger District
- Starr, Blue Mountain Ranger District
- Canyon Creek, Blue Mountain Ranger District

Burning may have some short-term impacts on air quality levels, but any burning activity will be accomplished during weather conditions that should minimize impacts of smoke on local communities.

Prescribed fires are an integral part of land management across the Malheur National Forest. Each of these burns represents many hours of planning and preparation. Specific weather and vegetative conditions must be in place in order to conduct these burns. Prescribed burns are designed to both reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfires as well to restore overall health of the National Forest System lands.

Updates are available at Malheur National Forest offices and online at www.fs.usda.gov/malheur.

For further information, contact forest staff at 541-575-3000.

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